Thursday, April 16th

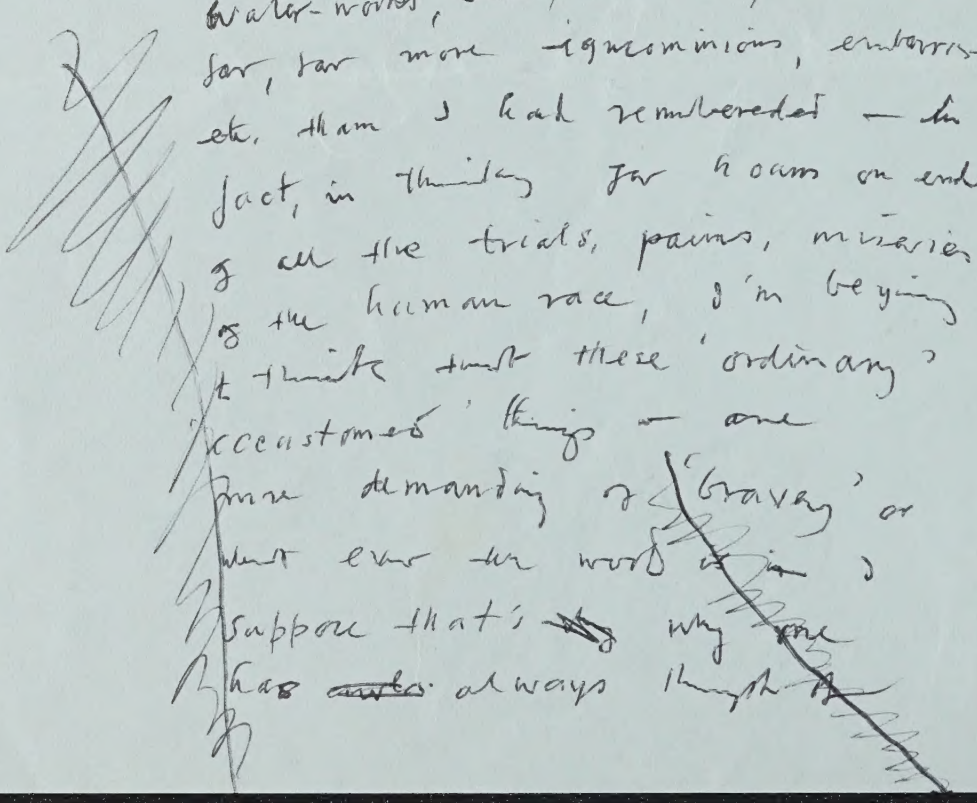
Harrow Hospital
Private Wing, Roxeth Hill

Dearest René, Harrow Middlesex 1970.

This can't be a letter, as I'm too weary, dull-witted, & half-asleep to think - & filled with various forms of drugs they dole out - but, damn & blast it, awakes me anyway during the night, mostly, but I feel I must write this with it in my head pall for both letters - one a bit back & the other yesterday. Thank You & Joan for all You say & much love.

Yes, Mametz again, in You say, but a bloody sight worse. They reckon technologically screening it, I can perfect. You know how the former tones turns in at the top called the 'head' & are joined to the pelpit by a large round bone - forgotten ch name - anyway in falling I smashed the bone on the left side - & had to look by

x steel one instead — in negative it looks like a pure white circular ball — & steel, — well, right leg is O.K. —) ~~from~~ now start to practice trying to walk with a steel frame, hands pressed on a bar of steel contraption — down the corridor — it's not so easy as it sounds. & damned exhausting. But by far the worst part of the whole damned business is the water-works, bed-pan stiff. It's far, far more ignominious, embarrassing, etc. than I had remembered — in fact, in thinking for hours on end of all the trials, pains, miseries of the human race, I'm beginning to think that these 'ordinary' 'accustomed' things — one more demanding of 'Bravery' or what ever the word is — I suppose that's why one has always thought



women as more 'brave'
than men, because they take
for granted these things of
the body — (as child birth & all that
whereas we (?) Think & can;
men easily endure active pains
as in war, etc. — I suppose
my stuff has on the whole
been central roots & Queen of
Heaven & a cult hero — the
son & Sponsor
Again my own terms which I mean.

Seen a number of Irishmen of
late. Am, incidentally, before
my accident, I gave or lent or reading
a lot of your Chanson de
Roland — It is so bloody
good René.
Rod Lowry must be a copy
of a translation of Dorothy
Sayers. But yours is, well,

(4)

many
~~hundred~~ hundred times better.
I do wish it could be published
with French opposite English.
Can manage one more
more love to Joan &
yourself David.

Valerie has been doing
the most work & sends
You her love.
D